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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WORKING INDEX OF PARTNERSHIPS

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Forward

This document is a "work in progress" of all the partnerships with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A notebook containing this information is in the process of being created to catalogue all these partnerships. Each entry will provide additional information such as address, contact, internet address, and an explanation, update, and/or status of the project and/or projects in which each of these organizations are cooperating with the BLM on-the-ground.

Overview

The BLM received Congressional authority to enter into partnerships in Section 307(b) of the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). FLPMA states that "the Secretary may enter into contracts and cooperative agreements involving the management, protection, development and sale of public lands."

The purpose of partnerships is to achieve mutual benefits without conflicts of interest. The number of public and private organizations ready and willing to form alliances to enhance the management of public lands is increasing every day, as the public and private sector recognize the effectiveness of collaborating and cooperating to achieve common goals. Currently the BLM has developed hundreds of partnerships at the national, State, and local levels to meet a wide range of natural resource management objectives and accomplish the BLM's mission, "to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the enjoyment of present and future generations." These partnerships are as diverse as the public lands and waters that the BLM manages.

Cooperating Associations

Cooperating Associations, also known as interpretive associations, are not-for-profit organizations established to support the interpretive, education, and/or scientific programs of a Government agency. These organizations "cooperate" with the BLM to offer a support service that is not otherwise available. Cooperating Associations support the BLM's mission and public lands primarily through the sale or other distribution of interpretive and educational materials. Currently, the BLM has agreements with cooperating associations in all eleven Western States and Alaska. These partnerships with Cooperating Associations are developed through the Offices of the BLM State Directors and the National Coordinator for Interpretation in the National Recreation Group under the Assistant Director for Renewable Resources and Planning.

The Association of Partners for Public Lands (APPL) has for more than 20 years worked to advance the common purposes of its member organizations. APPL has two membership categories: (1) full voting membership is open to any not-for-profit organization recognized by a public land management agency through a formal agreement as a "cooperating" or "interpretive" association for the purpose of operating a sales outlet and providing interpretive materials to visitors to that agency's site(s); and (2) affiliate, non-voting membership is available for not-for-profit groups, such as friends organizations, that support public land agencies but do not sell interpretive materials.

These cooperating associations belong to APPL and also have a cooperative agreement with the BLM:

- Alaska Natural History Association, Anchorage, Alaska
- Arizona Strip Interpretive Association, St. George, Utah
- Canyonlands Natural History Association, Moab, Utah
- Dixie Interpretive Association, Santa Clara, Utah

The BLM has partnership agreements with these Congressionally organized Foundations:

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Park Foundation
- National Forest Foundation
- National Environmental Education and Training Foundation

The BLM has partnership agreements with other nonprofit, tax-exempt foundations that were established without an Act of Congress, such as:

- Public Lands Foundation
- Wolftree, Inc.
- Outside Las Vegas Foundation

Volunteers

The BLM recruits 17,000 to 20,000 volunteers each year to perform a variety of jobs, from campground hosts, to archaeologists, to educators. In order to acknowledge these invaluable volunteer contributions, the BLM initiated its "Making a Difference" National Volunteer Awards in 1995, holding its first recognition ceremony in 1996. A national panel of BLM and partner organization representatives annually select the winners from a large poll of nominations submitted by the BLM State Offices and the National Office of Fire and Aviation. Award recipients are chosen for "Making a Difference" in management and conservation of the public lands and their resources, rather than for length of service or number of hours contributed. Collectively, these thousands of volunteers donate about 1 million hours in any given year which equates to 500 years in work time. The value of this work is estimated to exceed $15 million each year. In many instances, volunteers serve as the BLM's first point of contact with the public, playing an important ambassadorial role for the BLM, particularly as growing populations in the West have placed increased demands on the BLM public lands.

Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units

The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) are an established network of cooperative research units providing research, technical assistance, and education for resource and environmental managers. These CESUs involve multiple Federal agencies and universities among the partners in the program. Ecosystem studies involve the biological, physical, social, and cultural sciences needed to address natural and cultural resource issues and interdisciplinary problem-solving at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context. CESUs are based at universities and focus on a biogeographic region of the country. Universities provide space, basic administrative support, and access to university faculty, students, staff, and resources.

Federal agencies contribute research scientists and/or other professionals located and working at CESUs under formal agreements between their respective bureaus and universities. Participating agencies provide scientific staff, administration support funds, and project funds for specific research projects and technical assistance.

CESUs function as "virtual" organizations, linking several institutions to increase access to expertise and facilities. Individual CESUs are administered and managed at the field/regional level. The overall CESU Network is coordinated and provided support by the CESU Coordinating Council. The Council includes representatives of participating Federal agencies operating under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the CESU Network. The BLM has agreements with the following CESUs:

- Rocky Mountain Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;
- Colorado Plateau Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;
- Desert Southwest Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;
- Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;
- Great Plains Cooperative Ecosystems Studies Unit;

- University of Colorado Museum;
- Archaeological Survey of Idaho – Eastern and Western Repositories;
- Bosie State University;
- Nevada State Museum,
- Museum of New Mexico;
- Museum of Indian Arts and Culture;
- Maxwell Museum of Anthropology;
- University of Oklahoma;
- Oregon State Museum of Anthropology;
- Bowman Museum;
- Southern Oregon University;
- South Dakota School of Mines;
- BYU Museum of Peoples and Culture;
- College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum;
- Field House of Natural History State Park Museum;
- Edge of Cedars State Park Museum;
- Southern Utah University;
- University of Utah Museum of Natural History;
- Washington State University;
- University of Wyoming;
- Western Wyoming Community College;
- Wyoming State Museum.

Watersheds

A watershed is a geographic area in which all the falling water drains to a common water body, such as a river, lake, or stream. Watersheds may be as small as a few acres or lager than several States. Using data from the U.S. Geological Survey, the Nation can be divided into 2,149 medium-sized watersheds, averaging about 1,700 square miles in each area. Each watershed provides a unique challenge and requires innovative solutions. Local citizens are increasingly forming partnerships to help address the complex problems affective their water resources. It is estimated that there are more than 3,000 local watershed groups nationwide. The partners involved with the Clean Water Action Plan and Watersheds includes:

- Environmental Protection Agency;
- U.S. Department of Agriculture;
- U.S. Department of the Interior;
- U.S. Department of Commerce;
- U.S. Department of Energy;
- U.S. Department of Justice;
- U.S. Department of Transportation;
- U.S. Department of Defense;
- Natural Resources Conservation Service;
- USDA Forest Service;
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
- Bureau of Land Management;
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
- Tennessee Valley Authority;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- Bureau of Reclamation.

- Exxon Pipeline Company
- Independent Natural Gas Association
- Mineral Policy Center
- National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- Plains Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc.
- Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association
- Mining History Association
- Western Utility Council

Environmental Education, Interpretation, and Volunteer Organizations

- Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement
- Boy Scouts of America
- Canon Envirothon
- Girl Scouts of America
- National Science Teachers Association
- Partners In Resource Education
- Project Learning Tree
- Student Conservation Association
- Tread Lightly!
- Leave No Trace
- Utah Society for Environmental Education
- National Association of Interpretation
- Wilderness Inquiry
- Kiwanis International
- Outward Bound

Livestock Organizations

- Dow AgroSciences
- Society for Range Management
- The American Sheep Industry Association
- Public Lands Council
- National Cattlemen's Association
- American Farm Bureau
- Sustainable Rangelands Roundtable

Recreation Organizations

- All Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute
- American Recreation Coalition
- American Canoe Association
- American Motorcyclist Association
- American Hiking Society
- American Snowmobiling Association
- American Trails
- American Volksport Association
- American Whitewater Association
- American Water Trails Association
- Back Country Horsemen
- AAA
- Continental Divide Trail Alliance
- The Walt Disney Company
- National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial

Hunting and Fishing Organizations

- American Sportfishing Association
- Amerifish Corporation
- Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society
- Izaak Walton League of America
- Shimano American Corporation
- Recreational Fishing and Boating Partnership Council
- Trout Unlimited
- Ducks Unlimited
- Mule Deer Foundation
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- National Rifle Association
- Quail Unlimited
- Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
- One Shot Antelope Hunt Foundation
- Ruffed Grouse Society
- Pheasants Forever
- North American Outdoor Group
- Wildlife Forever
- International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- American Bass Association
- Fish America Foundation
- Boone and Crockett Club
- Safari Club International
- Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
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Environmental Organizations

- American Birding Association
- American Fisheries Society
- American Rivers
- The Peregrine Fund
- Humane Society of the United States
- Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Council
- The Wildlife Society
- American Bird Conservancy
- National Audubon Society
- National Wildlife Federation
- Garden Club of America
- The Nature Conservancy
- Wyss Foundation
- Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences
- Wyoming Department of Agriculture - State Weed Coordinator
- Defenders of Wildlife
- American Ornithologist's Union
- Bat Conservation International
- Center for Plant Conservation
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower
- Wildlife Management Institute
- Lifesavers, Inc.
- American Zoo and Aquarium Association

Lands Organizations

- Eastern/Western Lands Commission
- American Congress on Surveying and Mapping
- Land Trust Alliance
- Motion Picture Association of America
- National Public Land Coalition
- Western States Lands Commissioners Association
- Association for Partners for Public Lands
- Center for the American West
- Center for the Rocky Mountain West
- Public Lands Council
- Urban Land Institute

International Organizations

- Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (England)
- Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (Scotland)

Cultural/Historical/Paleontological Organizations

- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- American Anthropological Association
- American Association of Museums
- American Association of Physical Anthropologists
- American Cultural Resources Association
- American Historical Association
- Amigos Bravos
- Four Corners Heritage Council
- Organization of American Historians
- National Coalition for Heritage Areas
- National History Day
- National Council on Public History
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Save America's Fossils for Everyone
- Society for American Archaeology
- Society of American Archivists
- Society for Historical Archaeology
- Society of Vertebrate Palenotology
- The Archaeological Conservancy
- The Paleontological Society
- Western History Association
- Western State Historic Preservation Officers

State Organizations

- Western Governors Association
- National Association of Counties
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Western States Coordinating Council
- National Rural Development Partnership
- Western States Foundation

- Nevada 101
- Oregon 103
- Utah 61
- Wyoming 43

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